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JOURNAL

OF

FARM ECONOMICS

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ANNOUNCEMENT.

The annual meeting of the American Farm Economic Association will be held at the Auditorium Hotel, Chicago, November 11-13, 1919.

These dates overlap the meeting of the Association of Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations on November 12 and 13 and the National Country Life Association on November 11. Plans are being made to hold joint sessions with these Associations.

Indications are for a large attendance. The coming conventions should afford an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas, meet others in the same field of work and profit by the expression of leading authorities in the various discussions of present-day problems.

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PROGRAM.

Among the several topics that will be discussed at the annual meeting in Chicago will be Farm Organization Problems by Professor Boss of Minnesota and Professor Handschin of Illinois with audience discussion led by Livermore of New York and Mayland of North Dakota.

Price problems will be ably presented by Dr. Warren of New York and Dr. Cance of Massachusetts, with discussion led by Henry Wallace of Iowa.

Farm survey studies will be discussed by H. M. Dixon of the Office of Farm Management, Professor Nicholls of Kentucky and Professor Leitch of Guelph, Ontario.

Land problems are to be presented by Professor Ely of Wisconsin, O. G. Lloyd of Iowa and Dr. Gray of the Office of Farm Management.

Farm Labor Problems and Farm Management Extension Work

will also hold prominent places on the program. Dean Davenport of Illinois and Professor Graham of the States Relations Service have consented to assist with these subjects.

IMPORTANT MEETINGS TO BE HELD IN CHICAGO THE WEEK OF
NOVEMBER 10-15.

November 12-14. Association of Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations, Auditorium Hotel.

November 11-13. American Farm Economic Association, Auditorium Hotel.

November 8-11. National Country Life Association, La Salle Hotel.

November 10-11. Association of State Departments of Agriculture, Auditorium Hotel.

November 11-12. Federated Farm Bureaus.

November 11-12. American Society of Agronomy, Auditorium Hotel.

The last annual meeting of the American Farm Management Association was reported as one of the best held thus far by this organization. There was a wide range in the subject matter selected for presentation and discussion. The papers were all carefully written and were read in a forceful, convincing manner. A keen interest was maintained in the program from the beginning of the opening session on Wednesday morning to the completion of the business meeting on Friday afternoon. Heretofore all papers assembled on the occasion of the annual meeting have been published, together with the minutes of the Association, in a single yearly report. In making the change this year from an annual report to a quarterly journal, we find that it will not be possible to print all of the papers which were placed at our disposal. If sufficient funds had been available, the size of each number of the JOURNAL could have been increased and practically all manuscripts would have been utilized. The executive committee decided to contract obligations only in so far as the income of the treasury would permit us to meet these expenses during the current year. The signs of the times indicate an expansion of the association membership, and it appears to be safe to predict that there will be sufficient space next year to care for all matters relating directly to the annual meeting.

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THE JOURNAL OF FARM ECONOMICS should contain more than a complete report of the proceedings of the annual sessions of the

American Farm Economic Association. This meeting usually comes in November. Several manuscripts must of necessity be held for the third and fourth issues, which, under normal conditions, are printed about one year following this meeting. We may reserve the very best material for the last number, and yet, despite any prophetic touch that may be given, we are inclined to consider such papers as old or out of date. The period through which we are passing has witnessed many exceedingly abrupt changes. In the adjustment of economic conditions within the coming decade, there will be opportunity for sober and intelligent discussion of the problems of the farmer. If this JOURNAL is to accomplish its mission, it will deal frankly in current issues, with the things which are of vital importance not only from the standpoint of the producer, but also from the viewpoint of the consumer. Very meager information concerning the economic environment of the man behind the plow has been given to the general public. Consequently, there is ample room for constructive effort in this virgin field. It will be the purpose of the editorial staff to bring together each quarter a few concise articles dealing with up-to-the-minute topics on Farm Economics.

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During the summer months the daily press has devoted considerable space editorially and otherwise to the high cost of living. Some of this effort might well have been expended in pointing out ways and means of overcoming the cost of "high living" in our cities. A direct attack upon the prices paid for farm products was entirely out of place and unwarranted. If these preachments had been accompanied with a full statement of the underlying facts, there would have been some justification for the time and energy devoted to these subjects. Invariably the producer's side of the question was ignored, and final judgment was passed without bringing the case into court. This issue of the JOURNAL contains three articles which describe quite fully the producer's side of production costs and they point out some of the more important features of farm organization.

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THE STATUS OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION.

An attempt has been made to launch a membership campaign for the Economic Association by the appointment of a leader for this project in each Agricultural College. Gratifying results are begin-

ning to show from several of the States. Eight new members came in one notice from Iowa and four from Texas. The Secretary appreciates the efforts being spent by interested members in pushing for an increased membership. We need 750 members by November 11, the date of the annual meeting. This will mean 150 new members between September 15 and the second week in November.

The principal concern at the present time is not new members, however, but the status of the unpaid old members. Three notices, with personal letters, have been sent to the old members and at this writing there remains outstanding \$260, representing 137 old members who have not paid their 1919 dues. This may not be serious if the bills are paid but each one is receiving the JOURNAL OF FARM ECONOMICS with confidence that it will assist in keeping their names on the roll.

The Secretary desires to make a solvent report of the affairs of the Association at its annual meeting. This will be possible only by the payment of the dues of the old members. The 1919 year will be a record-breaker if every member pays up. We know the intentions are good, but the publishers of the JOURNAL have indicated that cash, only, will meet their requirements.